CURRENT STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 24 (Cancelled).

25. (Original) An analgesic composition, comprising an α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity, said agonist having the ability to produce peripheral analgesia without concomitant sedation.

26. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 25, wherein said peripheral analgesia is sufficient to reduce pain by at least 50% without concomitant sedation.

27. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 26, wherein at least a 10-fold greater dose is required to produce a 20% reduction in motor or muscular activity than the dose required to reduce pain by at least 50%.

28. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 27, wherein at least a 100-fold greater dose is required to produce a 20% reduction in motor or muscular activity than the dose required to reduce pain by at least 50%.

29. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 28, wherein at least a 1000-fold greater dose is required to produce a 20% reduction in motor or muscular activity than the dose required to reduce pain by at least 50%.

30. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 25 or claim 26, further having a substantial absence of hypotensive effects.

31. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein said agonist is not a thiourea or a derivative thereof.

32. (Original) The analgesic composition of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein said agonist is not a thiourea or 4-imidazole or a derivative thereof.

33. (Original) A method of alleviating pain in a subject, comprising peripherally administering to said subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity,

thereby producing peripheral analgesia without concomitant sedation.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said peripheral analgesia is sufficient to reduce pain by at least 50% without concomitant sedation.

35. (Original) The method of claim 33 or claim 34, wherein said peripheral analgesia occurs in the substantial absence of hypotensive effects.

36. (Original) The method of claim 33 or claim 34, wherein said α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is not a thiourea or a derivative thereof.

37. (Original) The method of claim 33 or claim 34, wherein said α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is not a thiourea or 4-imidazole or a derivative thereof.

38. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain is neuropathic pain.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said pain results from diabetic neuropathy.

40. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain is visceral pain.

41. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain is post-operative pain.

42. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain results from cancer or cancer treatment.

43. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain is inflammatory pain.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said pain is arthritic pain.

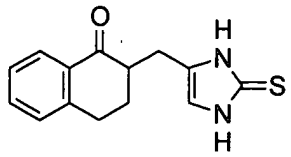
45. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said pain is irritable bowel syndrome pain.

46. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said pain is headache pain.

47. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is an α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity.

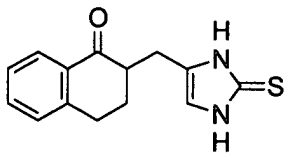
48. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is a thione.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula



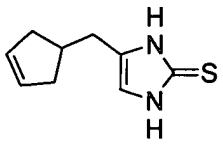
[FORMULA 3] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, sterioisomer or racemic mixture thereof.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is the (-) enantiomer of a compound represented by the formula



[FORMULA 3] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

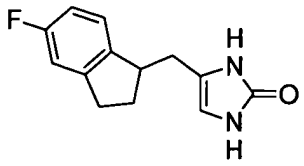
51. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula



[FORMULA 11] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, sterioisomer or racemic mixture thereof.

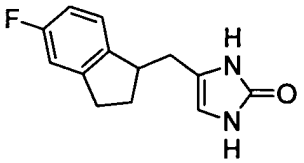
52. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is an imidazolone.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is a compound represented by the formula



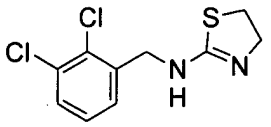
[FORMULA 4] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, sterioisomer or racemic mixture thereof.

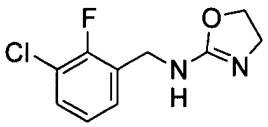
54. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is the (+) enantiomer of a compound represented by the formula



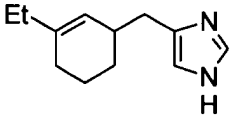
[FORMULA 4] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

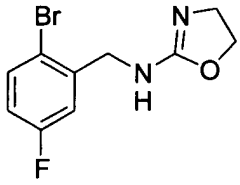
55. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein said α-2B agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is a compound represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of





[FORMULA 5], [FORMULA 6]





[FORMULA 9], [FORMULA 14],
and all pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, amides, sterioisomers and racemic mixtures thereof.

56. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is administered orally.

57. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said α-adrenergic agonist with minimal α-2A agonist activity is administered through a subcutaneous minipump.

Claims 58 to 114 (Cancelled).